/117 cont./

3. The Population.

162 a) Demography (see Tables III, IV, and V).

On the Capanaparo and the Riecito we have taken a census of 519 Yaruro (29 communities out of 30). Two-thirds (65.1%) of this population are adults (we do not have a breakdown by age) and the remainder (34.9%) prepuberal children. Among the adults the sexes are divided into two almost equal figures: 173 (51.2%) are men and 165 (48.8%) women. We have the /118/ /Table III appears here/ /119/ /Table IV and Table V appear here/ /120/ breakdown by sexes for children only in five communities; the totals for each of them gives us, there also, twofigures which are practically equal: 23 male children to 21 female.

163 165 Our statistics on births and mortality bear on only three communities with a total of 38 inhabitants in 1947; they are thus rather imprecise. During the period 1947 to 1950, i.e., during three years, we registered 6 births and 9 deaths (6 adults—2 men and 4 women—and 3 young children), that is, two births for three deaths (150% mortality) or, for the total population of the three villages, the respective percentages of 15.8% births and 23.7% deaths. The young children who died comprise one-third of the total of deaths (33.3%) and one half of the total births, which gives, for these 38 Yaruro, a 50% infant mortality.

161 On the basis of these statistics the Yaruro are on the way to extinction. This appears to be confirmed by the Indians themselves who state that they were formerly more numerous and that their number is going down each year. "We die with the first sickness," our old informant, Pedro Ramon Camacho (1) [115] [756]

1. Head and shaman of community 6.

told us, "and that's why there are so few of us. We are disappearing."

[text continues on p. 16]

5:Le Benerais--14 E-5 (1947-1950) 1954 SS19 Yaruro SS19

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TABLE IV

BIRTHS — DEATHS

No. of the Comm.	POPULATION 1947				BIRTHS 1947-1950	DEATHS 1947-1950					% Deaths/Births	
	Adults ♂	Adults ♀	Children	Total		Adults ♂	Adults ♀	Total	Children	General Total	General	Children
6	3	6	9	18								
7	1	4	6	11								
8	3	2	4	9								
Total	7	12	19	38	6	2	4	6	3	9		
%					15.8 (a)				33.3 (b)	23.7 (a)	150.0	50.0

(a) Of the total population of the three communities.

(b) Of the total deaths.